

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*File #*

22 May 1962

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, NFIC**

**SUBJECT: PI Training**

1. The purpose of this memo is to recommend certain courses of action for training new PI's for NFIC, particularly for CIA/PAD.

2. Assumptions and facts bearing on the problem -

a. By 1 January 1963 CIA/PAD PI strength should be increased by  PI's. Of this number  are in various stages of processing now.

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b. While every effort will be made to recruit trained PI's, or personnel with closely related skills, the bulk of the new CIA/PAD personnel will be essentially untrained.

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c. There may be some increase in Service PI's assigned to NFIC. The bulk of these will have received basic PI training and a reasonably high percentage will be experienced to some degree in conventional format photography.

d. There are a number of alternative ways to conduct all or part of the training:

- 1) Contract to university or civilian agency
- 2) Normal course at Service school
- 3) Arranging for special course at Service school
- 4) In-house course or courses at NFIC
- 5) On-the-job training
- 6) Some combination of the above

e. There is currently no approved plan for PI training. A decision is required now in order to provide training prior to the move to the new building.

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**CONFIDENTIAL****SUBJECT: PI Training****3. Brief discussion of alternatives:**

a. Contract to university or civilian agency. Looks very tempting on the surface, but it has a number of drawbacks: 1) clearances, 2) uncertainties on our part as to how many PI's will require training at what time, 3) considerable staff effort required by HPIC to set up contract, provide materials and help with curriculum. For frequent repetitive courses this might be a useful solution. But with our uncertainties and considering the small number of PI's, I think we could train the PI's ourselves and do a better job with less effort than would be required just to assist the contractor.

b. Normal course at Service School. The military services are still running PI courses of about 25-30 weeks duration, although their future is uncertain due to emergence of DIA and to recent decision by DOD to centralize all advanced PI training under Air Force. Course summaries are attached. Most of these courses contain at least 50% service-oriented intelligence training in addition to PI. I believe these courses are too long for the bulk of CIA/PAD PI's. However, since varied background and experience is extremely desirable, I believe CIA/PAD should send one new PI to each of the three Service schools each year including CY 1962.

c. Special course at Service School. The Air Force has informally indicated that they can set up any kind of desired special PI course at Sheppard AFB. Possibly other Services could do likewise. It seems to me that we should take advantage of these schools and arrange for one of them to set up a special course for us, to run about 6 weeks, basically on fundamentals with no codeword material. It would be helpful if domestic T material and Secret level current tactical photography could be used. Personnel undergoing processing should be picked up on CIA payrolls and made available for these courses. For CY 1962 the schedule might be as follows: three classes of 10-15 each, starting about 1 August, 15 September and 1 November.

d. In-house course or courses at HPIC. This could range from orientation on HPIC procedures, materials and equipment to a complete basic and advanced PI course. We simply do not have time or space for complete PI courses in 1962, nor do I see any reason for trying to do the entire basic PI job here while Service schools exist. I suggest we

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**SUBJECT: FI Training**

consider continuing something along the lines of the March course run by CIA/PAD, possibly three more times this year. It would have to be kept flexible, adapted to changing student backgrounds, and should have some Service participation (both students and instructors). Even in the future if basic FI is well done somewhere else or even if new personnel are trained, a specific course aimed at NPIC orientation will always be required.

a. On-the-job training. There will always be a continuing requirement for OJT, but, by itself it is inadequate.

**4. Responsibilities for NPIC training for CIA personnel -**

At the present time everyone has ideas on training but no one is bringing the problem to a timely conclusion, whether it is FI training or some other training. I believe that in the future the basic NPIC staff responsibility for seeing that appropriate training programs are established should rest with Chief/Admin, and that he is responsible for determining the needs of the other elements and providing coordinated staff studies to you for decision. The responsibility for execution of the training may or may not be his, depending on the type of training. The Chief, CIA/PAD, should be responsible for in-house FI training for NPIC.

**5. Recommendations -**

a. Eliminate further consideration of contract teaching for new FI's for CIA/PAD for FY 1963.

b. Send one new CIA/PAD FI to each of the regular full-course Service FI schools each year.

c. Arrange for a series of special 6-week courses at the most suitable Service school (or at all three if necessary).

d. Continue the in-house  courses, possibly three more times this calendar year.

e. Clearly define NPIC training responsibilities along the lines indicated in par 4 above.

f. Make arrangements to permit "in-process" personnel to attend school.

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Deputy Director  
National Photographic Interpretation Center

1 Inclosure

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**cc: Executive Director  
Operations Officer  
Chief/TPES  
Chief/Admin  
Chief/CIA/PAD**

**NPIC:OD, [REDACTED] (22 May 62)**

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Inclosure 1

### Summary of Service PI Schools

#### ARMY

1. The Army's basic PI course for officers is given at Fort Holabird. It is called "Image Interpretation Officers' Course." It is a 25-weeks course with 24 students in the class. The schedule for Fiscal Year 1962 had classes starting on the following dates: 13 November 1961, 4 December 1961, 12 February 1962, 16 April 1962, and 7 May 1962.

2. Holabird also runs a 17-weeks course for enlisted men.

#### NAVY

1. The basic Navy course for officer PI training is a 32-weeks course at the U.S. Naval Station, Washington, D. C. Approximately 12 weeks of the 32 are devoted exclusively to PI instructions, 12 weeks to basic air intelligence, and 8 weeks to radar target analysis. A 25-weeks course for enlisted men is given at the same location. The schedule for the next 18 months for the officers' course is as follows: 13 August 1962, 29 October 1962, 11 February 1963, 6 May 1963, 12 August 1963, and 29 October 1963.

2. 10-week courses in PI for officers and enlisted men are also given at the Fleet Air Intelligence Training Centers - Atlantic and Pacific (Norfolk and Alameda).

#### AIR FORCE

1. The basic Air Force officers' PI school is given at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. It is a 31-week course to train "Intelligence Photo-Radar Officers." Course commencing dates for the balance of this year are 4 July, 15 August, 26 September and 7 November.

2. A 19-week PI specialist course for enlisted men is also given at Sheppard.

3. Lt. Col. Saxon has indicated informally that Sheppard AFB can set up a special PI course if such a course is desired.